



NEWS

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Los Alamos Contract Process Announced

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The Department of Energy (DOE) has initiated the process to compete the management and operating contract for Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) in New Mexico for the first time since LANL's creation in 1943. The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), a separately organized agency within DOE, has announced that parties interested in competing for the contract should submit an Expression Of Interest (EOI) that describes their capabilities.

The NNSA is preparing a Request for Proposal (RFP), including the draft contract terms and conditions, that is tentatively scheduled for release in late fall 2004. A website, <http://www.doeal.gov/LANLContractRecompete/Default.htm> has been established for the dissemination of all information related to the competition. The website will identify when the EOI is due to the NNSA Service Center in Albuquerque, NM. A subscription feature will be included in the website, which will enable interested parties to receive notice whenever the website is updated. The website will be the principal solicitation distribution medium for notices, changes, questions and answers, and the forthcoming RFP.

The actual RFP release date will be announced on the website. Any amendments to the RFP or other pertinent information relating to the acquisition will also be available on the website. Additionally, NNSA plans on sharing draft sections of the RFP for public comment as they become available to help streamline the procurement process and initiate industry comments and recommendations.

LANL is currently operated by the University of California. The laboratory is one of the largest multidisciplinary institutions in the world and the largest institution and employer in northern New Mexico. It has approximately 7,500 employees and approximately 3,200 contractor personnel. Its current annual budget is approximately \$2 billion. About a third of the lab's technical staff members are physicists, a fourth are engineers, a sixth are chemists and materials scientists. Other technical staff members work in mathematics and computational science, biological science, geoscience and other disciplines.

The principal mission of LANL is to strengthen American security by applying world-class science and technology to enhance the nation's security through stockpile stewardship and reduce the global threat from terrorism and weapons of mass destruction. The contractor will be required to provide the intellectual leadership and management expertise necessary and appropriate to manage, operate and staff the laboratory and to accomplish the missions assigned by NNSA.

NNSA enhances U.S. national security through the military application of nuclear energy, maintains the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile, promotes international nuclear nonproliferation and safety, reduces global danger from weapons of mass destruction, provides the U.S. Navy with safe and effective nuclear propulsion, and oversees its national laboratories to maintain U.S. leadership in science technology.

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